



The Child and Adult Care Food Program

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Institutions Participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

FROM: *Norma Birckhead*
Norma Birckhead, Manager, CACFP and SFSP

SUBJECT: Clarification on the Use of Toddler Formula in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

DATE: December 1, 2014

STATE AGENCY MEMO: CACFP #02-2015

As the popularity increases among parents to provide toddler formula to children ages one to three years, child care institutions may have questions on the allowable use and creditability of these formulas in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). Toddler formulas come in powder form and ready-to-drink cartons, not to be confused with infant formula for children from birth to 12 months. This memorandum provides clarification regarding the use of toddler formula in the CACFP.

Toddler formula is considered a formula and would require a medical statement signed by a licensed physician or recognized medical authority in order for it to be served and creditable towards a reimbursable meal for children ages 1 year and older. In such cases, the use of conventional foods may be precluded, restricted, or inadequate to address their special needs. The medical statement would need to explain the reason for the substitution and indicate the recommended toddler formula for the child. As a note, this policy is consistent with other U.S. Department of Agriculture programs, including WIC.

Considering this, a parent would not be able to submit a request for toddler formula to be served as a substitute for fluid cow's milk. Additionally, it is unlikely that toddler formula would be nutritionally equivalent to fluid cow's milk.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

